



Ruthanne Fuller
Mayor

City of Newton, Massachusetts
Office of the Mayor

#162-23

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April 28, 2023

Honorable City Council
Newton City Hall
1000 Commonwealth Avenue
Newton, MA 02459

Honorable City Councilors:

I respectfully submit this docket item to this Honorable Council requesting authorization to accept and expend grant funds from the Mass Cultural Council in the amount of \$15,830.00 for the purpose of supporting Cultural Development's recovery efforts due to negative impact from the COVID-19 pandemic.

The funds will be used in several specific ways:

- ten weeks of salary for a part-time staff person in Cultural Development as we continue to return to pre-pandemic activity levels
- improvements to the City Hall Art Galleries (lighting and a new student exhibit space)
- additional signage at the new Cultural Development office at 1294 Centre Street
- a three-year subscription to CANVA graphics software (the department now creates all marketing materials in house)
- a small, portable raised platform for outdoor performances

Attached is a memo from Nicole Banks, Commissioner of Parks, Recreation & Culture.

Thank you for your consideration of this matter.

Sincerely,

Ruthanne Fuller

Mayor Ruthanne Fuller

CITY CLERK
NEWTON, MA, 02459

700 APR 28 PM 3:30

RECEIVED

NEWTON PARKS, RECREATION & CULTURE DEPARTMENT

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April 26, 2023

Mayor Ruthanne Fuller
Newton City Hall
1000 Commonwealth Ave
Newton, Ma 02459-1449

Dear Mayor Fuller:

I write to request that you submit a docket item to our Honorable City Council, requesting authorization to accept and expend grant funds from the Mass Cultural Council in the amount of \$15,830.00 for the purpose of supporting Cultural Development's recovery efforts due to negative impact from the COVID-19 pandemic. We expect the funds will be used to pay 10 weeks of salary for a part time staff person in Cultural Development as we continue to return to pre-pandemic activity levels. We will also use funds for improvements to the City Hall Art Galleries (lighting and a new student exhibit space), additional signage at the new Cultural Development office location where the department was moved during COVID, a three-year subscription to CANVA as the department now creates all marketing materials in house. We also anticipate a portion of this grant will fund a small, portable raised platform that could be used for outdoor performances, so that performers have a flat surface rather than grass.

Thank you for your consideration of this matter.

Very truly yours,



Nicole Banks
Parks, Recreation & Culture Commissioner

Cc: Maureen Lemieux, CFO
Alissa O. Giuliani, City Solicitor